**IN THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. An identifier indicating the status of each claim is provided.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A video information editing method comprising the steps of:

delimiting at timing of a delimiting instruction a regular edition video, constituted by continuous dynamic images recorded along with recording position information or time lapse information, into shots as units of dynamic images or into scenes each containing at least one shot with the recording position information or the time lapse information associated with the shots or scenes;

preparing an evaluation value of each of the shots or each of the scenes on the basis of the information provided corresponding to each of the shots or each of the scenes,

wherein the information provided includes semantic evaluation information and information relating to a presence/absence of a single or a plurality of video characteristic items ~~and video characteristic items~~; and

selecting from the regular edition video the shots or the scenes such that each of the evaluation values of the shots or the scenes satisfies a predetermined condition.

2-8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) A video information editing method comprising the steps of:

delimiting at timing of a delimiting instruction a regular edition video, constituted by continuous dynamic images recorded along with recording position information or time lapse information, into shots as units of dynamic images ~~or~~ and into scenes each containing at least one shot with the recording position information or the time lapse information associated with the shots or scenes;

preparing ~~an~~ a semantic evaluation value of each of the scenes on the basis of the information provided corresponding to each of the scenes; ~~,~~

~~wherein the information provided corresponding to each of the scenes includes semantic evaluation information and video characteristic items;~~

selecting from the regular edition video the scenes such that each of the semantic evaluation values of the scenes satisfies a predetermined first condition;

preparing an evaluation value of ~~each~~ at least one of the shots included in each of the selected scenes on the basis of the information provided corresponding to a single or a plurality of video characteristic items ~~each~~ of the shots; and

~~wherein the information provided corresponding to each of the shots includes semantic evaluation information and video characteristic items; and~~

selecting the shots such that each of the evaluation values of the shots satisfies a predetermined second condition,

wherein the first and second condition are set in accordance with a type of preview, the type of preview being selected from a plurality of types of previews, which are set for different purposes.

10-32. (Canceled)

33. (Currently Amended) A video information editing device comprising:

means for delimiting at timing of a delimiting instruction a regular edition video, constituted by continuous dynamic images recorded along with recording position information or time lapse information, into shots as units of dynamic images or into scenes each containing at least one shot with the recording position information or the time lapse information associated with the shots or scenes;

means for preparing an evaluation value of each of the shots or each of the scenes on the basis of the information provided corresponding to each of the shots or each of the scenes,

wherein the information provided includes semantic evaluation information and information relating to a presence/absence of a single or a plurality of video characteristic items~~video characteristic items~~; and

means for selecting from the regular edition video the shots or the scenes such that each of the evaluation values of the shots or the scenes satisfies a predetermined condition.

34-40. (Canceled)

41. (Currently Amended) A video information editing device comprising:

means for delimiting at timing of a delimiting instruction a regular edition video, constituted by continuous dynamic images recorded along with recording position information or time lapse information, into shots as units of dynamic images ~~or~~ and into scenes each containing

at least one shot with the recording position information or the time lapse information associated with the shots or scenes;

means for preparing ~~an~~ a semantic evaluation value of each of the scenes on the basis of the information provided corresponding to each of the scenes~~,~~

~~wherein the information provided corresponding to each of the scenes includes semantic evaluation information and video characteristic items~~;

means for selecting from the regular edition video the scenes such that each of the semantic evaluation values of the scenes satisfies a predetermined first condition;

means for preparing an evaluation value of at least one ~~each~~ of the shots included in each of the selected scenes on the basis of the information provided corresponding to ~~each~~ a single or a plurality of video characteristic items of the shots~~,~~

~~wherein the information provided corresponding to each of the shots includes semantic evaluation information and video characteristic items~~; and

means for selecting the shots such that each of the evaluation values of the shots satisfies a predetermined second condition,

wherein the first and second conditions are set in accordance with a type of preview, the type of preview being selected from a plurality of types of previews, which are set for different purposes.

42. (Original) The video information editing device as claimed in claim 41, further comprising means for, if the length of a video produced by connecting selected shots exceeds a predetermined video time, modifying at least one of the predetermined first condition

and second condition and repeating the processing until the length of the video becomes equal to the predetermined video time.

43. (Previously Presented) The video information editing device as claimed in claim 41, wherein the predetermined first condition is that an absolute value of the scene evaluation value related to the scene reaches a predetermined threshold value, and

wherein with respect to an integration value of the evaluation value related to each of the scenes along the scene transition, the scene is a peak scene when the continuous increase of the integration value up to a scene exceeds a predetermined first gap value and the absolute value of the continuous decrease of the integration value after that scene exceeds a predetermined second gap value,

while the scene is a valley scene when the absolute value of the continuous decrease of the integration value up to a scene exceeds a predetermined third gap value and the continuous increase of the integration value after that scene exceeds a predetermined fourth gap value, and

the threshold value is determined for each area between the peak or valley scene and the adjacent valley or peak scene.

44. (Previously Presented) The video information editing device as claimed in claim 41, wherein with respect to an integration value of the evaluation value related to each of the scenes along the scene transition, the scene is a peak scene when the continuous increase of the integration value up to a scene exceeds a predetermined first gap value and an absolute value

of the continuous decrease of the integration value after that scene exceeds a predetermined second gap value,

while the scene is a valley scene when the absolute value of the continuous decrease of the integration value up to a scene exceeds a predetermined third gap value and the continuous increase of the integration value after that scene exceeds a predetermined fourth gap value, and

the predetermined first condition is applied to the scenes on the upward slope to the peak from the adjacent valley before the peak and the scenes on the downward slope immediately after the peak, on the basis of the magnitude of the increase of the integration value of the valley scene and the adjacent peak scene after the valley, or on the basis of the ranking of the magnitude of the increase of the integration value.

45. (Original) The video information editing device as claimed in claim 43, wherein the predetermined first condition is that the absolute value of the scene evaluation value related to the scenes reaches a predetermined threshold value, and the threshold value is set in accordance with the upward slope from the valley to the adjacent peak or the downward slope from the peak to the adjacent valley.

46. (Original) The video information editing device as claimed in claim 43, wherein the predetermined first condition is that the absolute value of the scene evaluation value related to the scenes reaches a predetermined threshold value, and when each of the evaluation values is formed by a positive or negative value, the absolute value of the threshold value applied

to the positive evaluation value is made equal to or smaller than the absolute value of the threshold value applied to the negative evaluation value.

47. (Original) The video information editing device as claimed in claim 41, wherein the shot evaluation value is a value obtained by adding a value obtained by carrying out predetermined weighting on each of the video characteristic items including at least the presence of a speech, the volume of a predetermined level or higher, the appearance of a specified actor/actress, or the special picture effect in the corresponding part of the regular edition video, with respect to each of the items.

48. (Original) The video information editing device as claimed in claim 47, wherein with respect to the shot evaluation value, the weighting value on the item related to the appearance of a specified actor/actress is made greater than the weighting values on the other items.

49-56. (Canceled)

57. (Currently Amended) A video information editing device comprising:

means for delimiting at timing of a delimiting instruction a regular edition video, constituted by continuous dynamic images recorded along with recording position information or time lapse information, into shots as units of dynamic images ~~or~~ and into scenes each containing at least one shot with the recording position information or the time lapse information associated with the shots or scenes;

means for preparing ~~an~~ a semantic evaluation value of each of the scenes on the basis of the information provided corresponding to each of the scenes~~,~~

~~wherein the information provided corresponding to each of the scenes includes semantic evaluation information and video characteristic items~~;

means for selecting from the regular edition video the scenes such that each of the semantic evaluation values of the scenes satisfies a predetermined first condition;

means for preparing an evaluation value of ~~each~~ at least one of the shots included in each of the selected scenes on the basis of the information provided corresponding to ~~each~~ a single or a plurality of video characteristic items of the shots,

wherein the information provided corresponding to each of the shots includes semantic evaluation information and video characteristic items;

means for selecting the shots such that each of the evaluation values of the shots satisfies a predetermined second condition; and

means for coding the information of the recording position information or the time lapse information corresponding to each of the selected shots and data including at least the shot evaluation value,

wherein the first and second conditions are set in accordance with a type of preview, the type of preview being selected from a plurality of types of previews, which are set for different purposes.

58-63. (Canceled)

64. (Original) The video information editing device as claimed in claim 63, wherein with respect to the shot evaluation value, the weighting value on the item related to the appearance of a specified actor/actress is made greater than the weighting values on the other items.

65. (Currently Amended) A method for generating a preview from a video comprising the steps of:

accessing a ~~first~~ segment of the video;

establishing a plurality of shots from the ~~first~~ segment of the video;

providing semantic evaluation information related to content of one or more of the plurality of shots;

evaluating a single or a plurality of video characteristics of one or more of the plurality of shots;

selecting particular shots as a function of the semantic evaluation information and the single or plurality of video characteristics; and

generating the video by concatenating the selected particular shots such that the video has a predetermined time duration,

wherein the selecting particular shots is performed using predetermined conditions associated with a type of preview, the type of preview being selected from a plurality of types of previews, which are set for different preview purposes.

66. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for generating a preview from a video comprising:

means for accessing a ~~first~~ segment of the video;

means for establishing a plurality of shots from the ~~first~~ segment of the video;

means for providing semantic evaluation information related to content of one or more of the plurality of shots;

means for evaluating a single or a plurality of video characteristics of one or more of the plurality of shots;

means for selecting particular shots as a function of the semantic evaluation information and the single or a plurality of video characteristics; and

means for generating the video by concatenating the selected particular shots such that the video has a predetermined time duration,

wherein the selecting particular shots is performed using predetermined conditions associated with a type of preview, the type of preview being selected from a plurality of types of previews, which are set for different preview purposes.

67-75. (Canceled)

76. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium adapted to store a computer program for generating a preview from a video, comprising:

program code for accessing a ~~first~~ segment of the video;

program code for establishing a plurality of shots from the ~~first~~ segment of the video;

program code for providing semantic evaluation information related to content of one or more of the plurality of shots;

program code for evaluating a single or a plurality of video characteristics of one or more of the plurality of shots;

program code for selecting particular shots as a function of the semantic evaluation information and the a single or a plurality of video characteristics; and

program code for generating video by concatenating the selected particular shots such that the video has a predetermined time duration,

wherein the selecting particular shots is performed using predetermined conditions associated with a type of preview, the type being selected from a plurality of types of previews, which are set for different preview purposes.